Patent 5,620,079) which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent application 07/940,931 filed September 4, 1992 which is the parent of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/255,539 filed June 6, 1994 (now U.S. Patent 5,564,546) and cross-reference is further made to U.S. Application 09/178,441 for "Voucher Coding for Self-Service Coin Discriminator" filed on October 23, 1998 (now U.S. Patent 6,116,402) and to PCT/US97/11174 filed June 27, 1997 for "Coin Discrimination Apparatus and Method, all of which are incorporated herein by reference.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1, 10-14, and 20.

REMARKS

Claims currently pending in this application are 2-9, 15-19, and 21-24. During prosecution of prior, related patent application 09/422,917, the Examiner rejected these claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,116,402 to Beach et al. ("Beach").

Applicants would like to respectfully point out to the Examiner that, in accordance with 35 U.S.C. 103(c), at the time the present invention was made, the subject matter of Beach and the claimed invention were owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person. Accordingly, Beach is not available as a prior-art reference in regard to the present application and cannot serve as a basis for rejection of the pending claims.

Applicants respectfully request consideration of this application and its early allowance.

Respectfully submitted,
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APPENDIX – SPECIFICATION

MARKED TO SHOW CHANGES

Paragraph beginning at Page 1, line 1:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application No. 09/422,917, filed October 21, 1999, and currently pending. Cross-reference is made to U.S. Patent Application 09/035,273, filed March 8, 1998 which is a continuing application claiming priority from Serial No. 08/237,486 filed May 3, 1994 (now U.S. Patent 5,620,079) which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent application 07/940,931 filed September 4, 1992 which is the parent of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/255,539 filed June 6, 1994 (now U.S. Patent 5,564,546) and cross-reference is further made to U.S. Application 09/178,441 [(attorney file No. 3730-908)] for "Voucher Coding for Self-Service Coin Discriminator" filed on October 23, 1998 (now U.S. Patent 6,116,402) [even date herewith] and to PCT/US97/11174 filed June 27, 1997 for "Coin Discrimination Apparatus and Method, all of which are incorporated herein by reference.